

Press Note

Symposium on “Impact analysis of regulatory and participatory approach in the control of Water and Air pollution”

Water and Air pollution is a major environmental concern with an ever-increasing human population, rapid economic development, ongoing urbanization and changes in lifestyle. Present conditions and future forecasting shows worsening water condition in coming decades if right steps are not taken. Water, a basic human requirement, needs appropriate planning, development and management. The government agencies involve several action plans, policies, and regulations across all levels of India's federal structure and consequently illuminating every facet of water resource management in all Indian states and sectors.

A symposium on “**Impact analysis of regulatory and participatory approach in the control of Water and Air pollution**” was convened at CPCB, Head Office, Delhi on April 28, 2023, to present the initiatives taken by CPCB on regulatory and technological intervention for water quality management for municipal wastewater, industrial wastewater, occasion & festivities deteriorating water quality, water sustainability, water reuse and resource recovery and vehicular emission.

Hon'ble Prime Minister of India appealed to the nation to adopt measures for freshwater conservation and reuse of treated wastewater. In the purview of the above, efficient water management strategies and techniques (Reduce, Reuse, and Recycle) have been planned and implemented. This Symposium covers the vital role of CPCB in the subject matter by implementing, continuous surveillance, and monitoring of industrial pollution, sewage, and water quality; technological intervention through a participatory approach in industrial sectors such as Pulp & Paper, Sugar and Distillery, etc. for freshwater conservation, wastewater minimization, pollution load reduction and also reuse & recycling of treated wastewater in either industrial process or irrigation purposes. Domestic sewage one of the major contributors of water pollution in the Indo-Gangetic basin also been managed through capacity augmentation of sewage treatment facilities, adoption of alternative treatment technologies, action plan preparation and implementation for major drains, and continuous surveillance. It also focused on managing the water quality of river Ganga, Yamuna, and its tributaries through pollution source mapping and action plan preparation and its implementation involving local administration and governmental agencies.

Further, presentations were made in the above-cited initiative taken by CPCB which resulted in sustainable environmental management in different industrial sectors like; as Zero black liquor discharge from Pulp & Paper industries, Zero Liquid Discharge from Distilleries, no incidence of color water reported in the river Ganga, improvement in water quality of recipient water bodies, reuse of treated effluent from sugar industries in irrigation, interventions in sewage management resulted into improvement in water quality of river Ganga.

The symposium was inaugurated by Dr. Prashant Gargava, Member Secretary, Central Pollution Control Board. Sh. D.P. Mathuria, Executive Director (Technical), National Mission for Clean Ganga was invited as a Keynote speaker. The symposium was widely attended by academicians from reputed institutes, Scientists and Officials from State Pollution Control Boards, National Mission for Clean Ganga, National River Conservation Directorate, Central Public Health and Environmental Engineering Organization, Urban Bodies, Industry Associations, etc. The subject matter presented by CPCB officials was widely appreciated and it concurred that the concerned stakeholders shall take necessary efforts for implementation of the various measures presented during the Symposium and carry forward the message of freshwater conservation and reuse of treated wastewater for environmental sustainability.